

My Bible Is True

My Bible is true and trustworthy. It is the all-sufficient rule of faith and practice. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and thereby I can know who God is and what he has done and what his intentions are for me in my world.

Is your Bible true? I do not mean the original autograph. I mean the copy you have and use. I mean whichever text of the Old Testament or the New Testament or whichever translation you actually study.

This is important because there are those who say that the Bible loses its authority and becomes relatively useless unless it is verbally inspired, inerrant, and infallible, truth without any mixture of error. That is strong language, stronger than the language of the "Baptist Faith and Message" adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1925 and again in 1963. Obviously, such language cannot be applied to The Living Bible, for the translator tells us that he has produced a paraphrase rather than an exact translation. Neither is the popular Good News for Modern Man an exact translation, for it, too, is partially paraphrase. Scholars have also argued about specific portions of the translation in the King James Version, the Revised

Standard Version, and the New English Version. No one of these is precisely accurate without any mixture of error.

Perhaps you use the Hebrew text of the Old Testament. Do you use the Hebrew text without the vowels or do you use the much later eighth century AD Masoretic vowel pointed text, or do you prefer the Septuagint?

For the New Testament, do you prefer the Westcott and Hort Greek text, the Nestle's Greek text, or the United Bible Societies' text? Do you prefer any of the footnotes to the main text?

The scholars have had a hand in establishing each of these original language texts of the Old and New Testament, not to mention the translations. I have great confidence in scholars, but I do not think they are infallible.

Any talk about the inerrant, infallible, verbally-inspired Scripture, truth without any mixture of error, must take account of the problems of textual differences and translation. Some who use this language do so apparently intending to deceive by not making it clear that they are really talking about the original copy or original autograph of each book of the

President, Southern Seminary

Bible and not a Bible available today.

For a thousand years no one has seen any original autograph of a book of the Bible. The earliest copies of the New Testament available to us are in the library of the Vatican or the British Museum and were made about AD 400. They are not exactly alike.

That is why I am concerned about the emphasis on something not now available to us. Surely the original autograph is not the only Bible we can trust.

I am not talking about a Bible which used to exist. I am talking about the Bibles on your and my bookshelf—Hebrew, Greek, German, French, Latin, English, Russian—each one has truth without any mixture of error for its matter. It is the authoritative revelation of God; it is the rule of faith and practice; it is the source of my knowledge of salvation; it has introduced me to the God and Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

I am aware of the mistakes the copyists made in ancient manuscripts. I am aware of scholarly limitations and prejudices and the theological blindness of some translators. Yet, my Bible

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The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

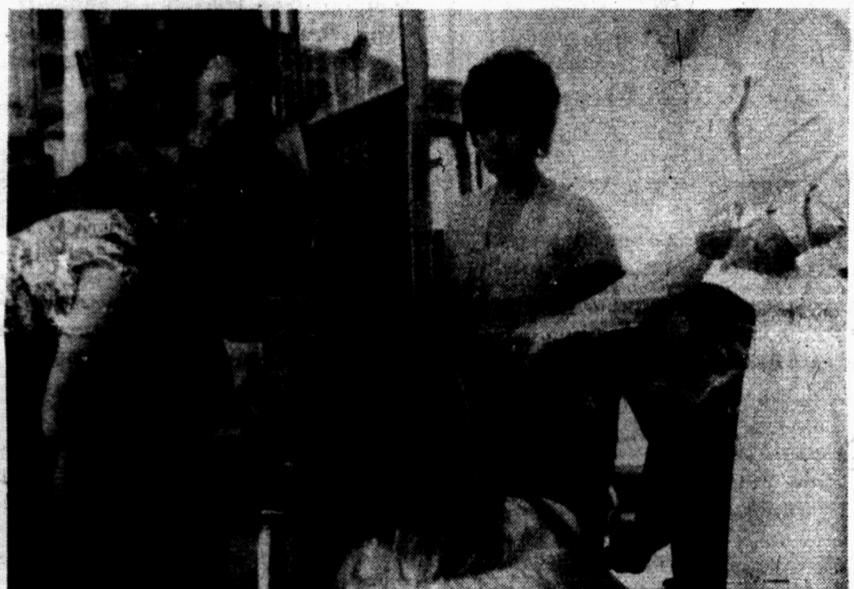
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Marilyn Hopkins, right, Mississippi Acteens director, and Mrs. Robert Smira of Jackson, Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union president, second from right, are ready to board a bus with a group of Acteens from Brookhaven to begin the trip to Memphis for the national Acteens conference. Mississippi was represented by 1,033 girls at the conference.



Girls from Trinity Church, Pearl, make preparations for loading their luggage on one of two buses the Mississippi WMU provided for the trip to Memphis for the Acteens conference. Many other girls went by private automobiles.

Court Protects Showing Of Drive-In Obscene Movies

WASHINGTON (BP) — Cities may not forbid the showing of films at drive-in theaters containing nude scenes, even if the screen is visible from nearby streets and residences, the U. S. Supreme Court has ruled.

The case, *Erznoznik v. City of Jacksonville (Fla.)*, challenged a city ordinance which declared a public nuisance the exhibition of movies in drive-in theaters "in

which the human male or female bare buttocks, human female bare breasts or human bare public areas are shown."

The city of Jacksonville argued before the high court that its law was designed to protect its citizens against unwilling exposure to offensive materials. The court's 6-3 majority said, however, that the ordinance singled out films containing nudity "presumably

because the lawmakers considered them especially offensive" while ignoring other potentially offensive features.

"Such selective restrictions," Justice Lewis F. Powell continued, "have been upheld only when the speaker intrudes on the privacy of the home." Powell wrote the opinion for the majority.

Attorneys for the city had also

maintained that the ordinance sought to protect children from viewing nude bodies. The court held that such a prohibition is too broad because it "is not directed against sexually explicit nudity." Instead, "it sweepingly forbids display of all films containing any uncovered buttocks or breasts, irrespective of context or pervasiveness."

Jacksonville also argued that its ordinance would help avoid traffic accidents. But the court held that the city "offers no justification . . . for distinguishing movies containing nudity from all other movies in a regulation designed to protect traffic."

Justice William O. Douglas, who opposes all censorship of films and books, issued a concurring opinion stating that "any ordinance which regulates movies on the basis of content, whether by an obscenity standard or by some other criterion, impermissibly intrudes upon the free speech rights guaranteed" in the U. S. Constitution.

Three justices dissented, including Byron R. White, who warned

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Foreign Board Appoints 25; Approves Relief Fund

RICHMOND (BP) — World relief funds totaling \$122,000 were appropriated and 25 missionaries were appointed during the June meeting of the Foreign Mission Board here.

The board also voted to provide financial assistance to missionaries who lost personal goods when they evacuated Vietnam and Laos, reallocated \$156,000 set aside for South Vietnam to pro-

grams in the Philippines, named on staff member to a new post and accepted the resignation of another.

W. L. (Wimpy) Smith, associate secretary for missionary personnel since 1969, will fill a newly-created post as associate consultant for laymen overseas and associate disaster response coordinator. He will work with Eugene Grubbs who has primary responsibility in these areas.

Debord Resigns

Samuel A. Debord, secretary for the department of promotion and furlough ministries, resigned effective July 15.

Baker J. Cauthen, executive secretary, reported on the progress of the board coordinating committee assigned to study strategy and propose a new program of advance for the next 25 years.

He said dialogue sessions have been held with Southern Baptist

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Mississippi's Bell Thrills SBC

There can be no doubt that Mississippi's Liberty Bell attracted more attention at the Miami Beach Southern Baptist Convention than did any other feature of the program. Here are some excerpts from convention editorial reports or from "letters to the editor" concerning the convention.

"The 50th Anniversary of the Cooperative Program and the ringing of the Liberty Bell heralding our nation's bicentennial also made this one (convention) different. The tolling of the bell to close the session late Thursday night, June 12, was one of the most memorable things we have experienced at any SBC in the 26 we have attended since 1950." —Marse Grant, Biblical Recorder, N. C.

". . . chills ran up and down many spines as the Liberty Bell replica tolled out chimes of joy and challenge, calling Southern Baptists and other Americans to a new spirit of revival and freedom." —Jack Harwell, Christian Index, Ga.

"I liked the Bicentennial flavor that was given to the convention sessions, especially the ringing of the liberty bell . . . Letter, N. C.

"The ringing of the Liberty Bell brought tears of joy to my heart. I'm proud to have been a part of this unique and inspirational convention." —Letter, N. C.

"The presentation and ringing of the Liberty Bell at each session inspired a new surge of patriotism and gratitude to God for his blessings upon us and our nation." —Letter, N. C.

"The melodious tones of a replica of the Liberty Bell opened the 1975 sessions, echoing across the convention hall, hailing the theme, 'Let Christ's Freedom Ring.' The huge bell came to Miami from the Mississippi State Capitol in Jackson. . . . Eura Lannom, Baptist and Reflector, Tennessee.

"Let Freedom Ring" was a prominent note sounded at

(Continued on Page 5).

Those Interested In Doctor Of Ministries Degree To Meet

Seminary graduates who are interested in obtaining a doctor of ministries degree through a seminar program to be conducted in the Baptist Building in Jackson are asked to meet at noon on July 21 at the Baptist Building.

The group will leave the building for a "dutch" lunch at which time Dr. Bradford Curry of the New Orleans Seminary staff will discuss prerequisites for the program and set up conferences with Dr. Curry is the director of the

(Continued on Page 5).

RICHMOND — Rev. and Mrs. Gerald C. Davis, and Rev. and Mrs. Tony G. Latham were among 25 missionaries appointed by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in its June 24 meeting here. All expect to be assigned to general evangelism work in the Philippines.

The Davises are currently living in Olathe, Kan., where he is

pastor of Vista Baptist Church. She is a kindergarten teacher in Spring Hill, Kan.

Davis was born and grew up in Carrollton, Ala. He received the

associate of arts degree from

(Continued on page 3).

Foreign Board Names Two Mississippi Couples

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Rev. and Mrs. Tony G. Latham

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Davis was born and grew up in Carrollton, Ala. He received the

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(Continued on page 3).

\$450,000 Memorial Gift Goes To FBC, Batesville

First Baptist Church of Batesville has been named as the primary beneficiary of the estate of the late Robert E. and Eva A. Lee, according to a statement released by the pastor, Dr. Robert E. Lee.

The will of the late Robert E. Lee, last member of a family whose close connection with that church had spanned some 68 years, stated that the major part of the estate was given in memory of his late father and mother, Dr. & Mrs. J. W. Lee, and his late sister, Miss Eva Lee. The estimated value of the memorial gift, most of which is in stocks and bonds, is \$450,000.

Dr. J. W. Lee served as pastor of First Church for nearly 40 years beginning in 1907. He remained active and led the church until shortly before his death in 1946 at age 85. Mrs. Lee passed away a short year later. Dr. Lee served in almost every capacity among Mississippi Baptists, and

was known particularly as a supporter of Mississippi College, serving on the board of that institution for a number of years. Dr. D. M. Nelson, late president of Mississippi College, delivered the

(Continued on page 2).

Six Meetings Remain On Decade Of Advance Tour

The first of these will be Clarksdale on July 14.

During next week meetings also will be held at First Church, Batesville, on July 15; at First Church, Holly Springs, on July 17; and at Calvary Church, Tupelo, on July 18.

The concluding week will have

meetings at First Church, Kos.

(Continued on page 2).

'75 SBC Reflects Quiet, 'Middle Of Road' Stance

By Robert O'Brien

MIAMI BEACH (BP) — The only waves at Miami Beach, according to a sampling of editorial opinion on the annual Southern Baptist Convention sessions here June 10-12, were those which washed ashore along the beach.

And even they were plaid, avoiding stinging slaps at swimmers, while SBC messengers at the Miami Beach Convention Center, apparently responding to SBC President Jaroy Weber's pre-convention call for harmony, showed each other the same consideration.

Editors of statewide Baptist newspapers characterized the 118th annual SBC as quiet and harmonious but expressed enthusiasm for the 130-year-old body's emphasis on evangelism, missions, and inspirational speakers.

And, generally, they liked the electronic-aided pageantry surrounding the SBC's observance of the 50th anniversary of its Cooperative Program unified budget and the nation's bicentennial.

They applauded adoption of a \$51 million 1975-76 Cooperative Program budget, exceeding the 1974-75 budget by 25 percent.

Although the SBC came and went quietly, it showcased the worldwide thrust of Southern Baptist work on closed-circuit image-magnified screens before 16,212 registered "messengers" — third largest registration in SBC history behind Dallas in 1974 (18,190) and New Orleans in 1969 (16,678).

Editors took repeated note of the convention continuing to take a conservative, "middle of the road" stance on issues — swaying neither toward ultra-conservatism nor liberalism.

Sole Guide

The convention's "emphasis and agreement on the New Testament as the sole guide for Baptists (was) a statement good enough for most except the ultra-conservatives who want their interpretation," said John Hurt, editor of Texas' Baptist Standard.

James F. Cole, editor of Louisiana's Baptist Message, commented on "a few self-appointed creationists who tried to get the messages to say they believe the Bible, while the theme of speakers constituted a plea that Southern Baptists practice the Bible at every level of society."

Joe Odle, editor of Mississippi's Baptist Record and well-known spokesman for the conservative point of view, declared:

"...the Southern Baptist Convention is comprised of Bible-believing, conservative people, who refuse to veer from their center of the road conservatism, either to the right or to the left. They are neither ultra-conservative nor liberal, but must be classified as a theologically-conservative, Bible-accepting people."

The Mississippi editor added: "Any careful observer, watching the actions of the convention, quickly realizes that Southern Baptists continue as the strong conservative body they have always been and that liberalism is having little influence."

"There is even evidence that seminaries and other institutions are listening to the convention's voice as it has spoken in recent years, and are seeking to keep the institutions and agencies right in the middle of the conservative position that the convention holds," Odle said.

"This does not mean," he said, "that every Southern Baptist would completely agree on the method God used in inspiring the Bible, for they never have done that. Nevertheless, there evidently are few amongst them who do."

National Acteens Conference Draws 11,000

(Continued from page 1)

happen. It is something I worked hard for," Miss Cothran said, describing her dieting, exercising and talent practice in pursuit of local titles. She said that she did not meet with success until she asked God's guidance. "I had put Shirley number 1 and God number 2, and that is a losing combination."

Stick to Beliefs

She challenged the Acteens to stick to their beliefs about Christian behavior. She said she does not smoke, drink, use drugs, or "sleep with my boy friends. My challenge to you is that it is not necessary to compromise for an artificial high when you have an all time natural high through Jesus Christ," she said.

Melvin Torstrik, representing the SBC's Foreign Mission Board, and Jerry Scruggs, representing the SBC's Home Mission Board,

not affirm that the Bible is the Word of God, and who do not accept the New Testament as the final and sole authority in all matters of doctrine and church polity."

"Even the Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship, an organization bent on weeding out the 'liberals' of the convention, cancelled their preconvention rallies for apparent lack of interest," commented Edgar R. Cooper, editor of the Florida Baptist Witness, reflecting on the convention's calmness and absence of the hostility some past conventions have experienced.

Puzzlement in Evaluating

"Puzzlement comes in evaluating undercurrents and resolutions that surfaced and didn't surface at Miami Beach," said Jack U. Harwell, editor of Georgia's Christian Index. "For example, the Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship didn't get enough people to come to their planned meeting to have a meeting, but one of their leading spokesmen, Adrian Rogers (pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis), was elected president of the Pastors' Conference."

John Roberts, editor of South Carolina's Baptist Courier, said, "The convention may be remembered as much for what it refused to do as for what it did. The messengers repeatedly refused to adopt extremist positions on such issues as abortion, hunger, Communism, doctrine, content of public school textbooks.

"Opportunities came in abundance in the form of resolutions and motions," Roberts said. "The convention held firmly to a course of mainstream moderation. It cited the Baptist Faith and Message doctrinal statements of 1963 and 1925 as adequate and needing no further change. It refused to change an earlier position on abortion. And it chose to work through its agencies on public school textbooks.

Several editors grumbled some over the flood of resolutions which took up convention time but generally recognized the need for the SBC even with its burgeoning size, to keep the proceedings democratic and accessible to messengers.

"Unless the procedure is improved, the entire resolutions process stands in grave danger to be laughed out of the hall," said Marse Grant, editor of North Carolina's Biblical Recorder. "At their best, resolutions present a sticky, tricky way of trying to reflect the sentiments of 124 million people. At their worst, they

BULLETIN

Dr. Frank Tripp, long-time Southern Baptist leader, died in Montgomery, Alabama, July 8. Funeral services scheduled for July 18. Dr. Tripp was a pastor, director of the Hundred Thousand Club, (a debt paying movement during the depression years), and Baptist Hospital administrator. He was the father of Mrs. Harvey Hedgepeth of Jackson. Full story next week.

Mid-Year Gifts For State Show 7.9 Percent Gain

Mississippi Baptist Convention Cooperative Program receipts for the first six months of the year have totalled \$3,159,748, according to an announcement by Dr. Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

This is an increase of \$231,249, or 7.9 per cent, over the same period of a year ago, Dr. Kelly indicated.

Receipts for June also were up considerably from a year ago, Dr. Kelly said. The \$414,568 total for June, 1975, is \$67,180, or 19.3 per cent, more than for the same month in 1974. This is the highest percentage increase over the same period of last year that has been experienced this year. It is the second largest dollar amount increase for the year, which has

experienced an increase every month over the same month of 1974.

The six months' total for 1975 is short of the halfway point in the budget for the year by \$140,252. The 1975 budget of \$6.6 million is \$1.1 million more than for the previous year.

Mississippi Southern Baptists are continuing to exhibit their concern for the causes of Christ at home and around the world," Dr. Kelly said. "We feel confident that this year's budget will be met and all of the causes represented in it will be adequately funded."

The Cooperative Program is the Southern Baptist unified and voluntary system of financing the work of its agencies and missions throughout the world.

Fifth Birthday

The conference featured the fifth birthday of Acteens (using a giant cake as the focal point) a wide range of musical expression, special missions presentations and discussions of future adult roles.

Juliet Mather, WMU's first full-time professional youth leader beginning in 1921, came out of retirement in Indialantic, Fla., to return to their daily routine with determination to keep in touch with themselves, with God and with the world.

Miss Mather stressed the need for response to world hunger, for re-aligning the world's resources among the nations, for sensitivity to political situations. In a documentary on the news, she told of the Baptist involvement of the late Chiang Kai Chek.

You could hear God speak to you. All that we have done makes no difference if God has not spoken to you," she said, urging the Acteens to respond to God's leading in their lives.

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A Plea For Responsibility

By Joe N. McKeever
First Baptist Church
Columbus, Ms.

It was demonstrated again recently at the Southern Baptist Convention in Miami. A messenger gave an impassioned plea for the convention to go on record as opposing the efforts of atheist Madelyn Murray O'Hair to have Bible reading outlawed in outer space.

"We need a million letters to flood NASA," the messenger said.

It would have been funny had it not been so pathetic. The furor over this issue came and went in the late 1960's. The result was that NASA is reported to have received over five million letters and sent up a plaintive plea for no more letters lest they be inundated! The point was made.

Yet, five years later, others are just now finding out about this crusade against Ms. O'Hair and are rising up in arms. It's admirable. Just useless.

Who is the culprit? The answer: the local church weekly mailout.

Most pastors receive numerous church bulletins each week. I receive about fifty. In turn, we mail our bulletin to a hundred or so churches in addition to our church members.

The result is a constant swapping of ideas, illustrations, artwork and "causes."

Here's how it works. Recently I read in the Oklahoma Baptist Messenger that Rev. Gene Garrison had seen a bumper sticker reading, "Tithe if you love Jesus. Anybody can honk."

Since it was cute and made a good point, we decided to run it in our mailout. We drew a cartoon of a car's bumper and lettered in the words.

Six months later the identical cartoon is still showing up in church bulletins that we receive. There's no knowing how far it has traveled. (We're flattered!) It's like the old gossip parlor game.

The danger of such indiscriminate picking up of arti-

cles is that one may pass on faulty information. This has often occurred. A prime example is now making the rounds.

A member of our church handed me a clipping from a Florida church bulletin. It told of a gigantic computer in Europe with a capacity for information on every human being in the world. Nicknamed "The Beast," the computer was identified as potentially the culprit found in Revelation 13. It was a frightening article.

The Florida church had picked up the article from another church bulletin in the same state.

There is apparently no such computer. Recently the highly respected National Observer ran a story on this subject after it was deluged with letters asking about "The Beast." It developed that some doomsday prophet was printing the above story attributing it to information gained in the Observer.

When the Observer's reporters attempted to get to the bottom of the story, they could not locate the "prophet" and mail to his address was returned unopened. He did not seem to exist. All efforts to verify the story were fruitless.

Yet the story continues to make the rounds, traveling slowly, to be sure, one church at a time. And we, as gullible as chain-letter addicts, gobble up the rumors and pass them on to the next unsuspecting victims.

Logic dictates that having said the above, I should propose a remedy for same. There is one, a disarmingly simple one.

Check it out. Be sure of what you print in your paper. Don't assume the other people checked into the reliability of the story before they ran it.

Drop a note to the editor of the bulletin you are about to copy and ask about the item. Where did he get it? How can it be verified?

It's called responsible stewardship of our ministries.

Weekly Religious News Broadcast Plans Unveiled

Plans for a five-minute weekly religious news broadcast were announced to the Mississippi Broadcasters Association during its annual convention in Biloxi by officials of the Mississippi Baptist

Convention Board.

The plans were outlined at a luncheon for the broadcasters for which the board was the host. Dr. Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer for the board, and Don McGregor, associate editor of the Baptist Record, spoke briefly in giving details of the newscast, to be called News Scope.

Rev. Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church, Jackson, was the principle speaker for the luncheon.

Material for News Scope will be prepared in Jackson and sent to the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission in Fort Worth for taping. It will consist of short items of religious news concerning Mississippi. A great deal of the content will relate primarily to Baptists due to the material being prepared in Baptist offices and the sizeable Baptist population in the state. Other denominations will be invited to take part in the effort, however.

The tapes from Fort Worth will be mailed free of charge to the Mississippi radio stations which are interested in using them.

The first broadcasts of News Scope will be heard during the first weekend in August, and they will be presented weekly thereafter.

Honorary Member

Dr. Paul Stevens, left, president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, was honored by the Mississippi Broadcasters Association during its annual convention in Biloxi. He was made an honorary member of the association. Jim Buffington of Aberdeen, right, president of the association during the past meeting, made the presentation of a plaque.

Henderson To Join Board Staff During Furlough



Rev. Guy Henderson, missionary to the Philippines, center, is discussing his field of service with Rev. John Alexander, left, director of the Stewardship Department, and Rev. Clarence Cutrell, right, associate in the department. Rev. Henderson became missionary in residence in the department on July 7.

Rev. W. Guy Henderson, missionary to the Philippines, has joined the staff of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board for a year during his furlough period.

Rev. Henderson will be affiliated with the Stewardship Department, of which Rev. John Alexander is director. He will be missionary in residence, a program sponsored jointly by the Foreign Mission Board and the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. This is the first experience in this program for Mississippi, said Dr. Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the board, who made the announcement.

"Our hope is that he can help promote Cooperative Program and missions giving," said Rev. Alexander. "We hope that we in turn can share with him stewardship education and promotion information that can be used on the mission field."

He joined the Convention Board staff on July 7.

Rev. Henderson will speak in conferences and be available to speak in churches by invitation on Sunday and Wednesday night.

He is a native of Jackson and a graduate of Mississippi College. He is also graduate of New Orleans Seminary and served as pastor of Pleasant Ridge and Cash churches in Forest; the Mount Zion, Fellowship, and New Home churches at Taylorsville; Mess Church at Tylersburg; Society Hill Church in Oak Vale; and Emmanuel Church in Biloxi.

He was a missionary to Korea from 1959 to 1965.

Mrs. Henderson is a native of Alice, Tex., and attended Mississippi College, Gulf Park College, and William Carey College at Hattiesburg. She has worked at the Baptist Bookstore in Jackson and as secretary at First Church, Clinton.

The couple has four children: Rex Wayne, Melinda Gayle, Patricia Ellen, and Angela Kaye.

Names In The News



Mike Harris, pictured with his wife, Gloria, was ordained to the gospel ministry June 1 by 15th Avenue, Meridian, Rev. Kelly Dampeer, pastor. He is pastor of Grandview, Meridian, and a second year student at Clarke College. Rev. Lendell Ainsworth, Mr. Harris' former pastor, preached the ordination sermon.

Rev. Cecil Mulloy, pastor of Arcola Church, Arcola, is recuperating at his home after undergoing surgery at Leland.

Lakeview Church, Leland has called Bobby Allen as youth worker for the summer. From Greenville, he will be a senior pre-med student next session at Univ. of Mississippi. He worked as a summer missionary in Montana in 1974, and is a missions volunteer. Rev. Charles Everitt is pastor of Lakeview.

Mr. and Mrs. O. Errol Simons, missionaries to Spain, have arrived on the field for their first term of service (address: c/o Charles Whitten, Manteo Inuria 11 3C, Madrid 18, Spain).

Dr. Chester Swor (center) of Jackson, noted author and lecturer, visited two of his former Mississippi College students—Dr. Paul M. Stevens (left), president of the Radio and Television Commission, and Dr. Alvin 'Bo' Huffman Jr. (right), executive vice president of the Radio-TV Commission. Dr. Stevens was awarded a doctorate of literature during Mississippi College's recent commencement services.



"Johnny the Baptist" of Mobile, left, has been invited to Washington to preach (bring a devotion) at the Pentagon. He visited the White House last summer with Mrs. Molly Fairchild, center, and gave his Christian testimony to tourists he saw there.

Dr. Chester Swor (center) of Jackson, noted author and lecturer, visited two of his former Mississippi College students—Dr. Paul M. Stevens (left), president of the Radio and Television Commission, and Dr. Alvin 'Bo' Huffman Jr. (right), executive vice president of the Radio-TV Commission. Dr. Stevens was awarded a doctorate of literature during Mississippi College's recent commencement services.

William Jere Allen, pastor of Bainbridge - Southampton Church, Richmond, Va., has been named consultant to churches in changing communities by the Alabama Baptist State Convention. As a consultant, Allen

will work in the church ministries division of the Baptist State Executive Board, Dr. Earl Potts, director. Allen began his work June 15. A native of Greenville, Miss., he graduated from Auburn University and Southern Seminary.

Mrs. Lennie Thompson, for the past several years minister of music of Bel Aire Church, Gulfport, has resigned and has moved with her husband, Charles, to Columbus, Ms., where her husband is employed at the Air Force Base.

Thursday, July 10, 1975

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 2



Mississippi Broadcasters

Rev. Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church, Jackson, second from right, addressed the Mississippi Broadcasters Association at a luncheon during the association's annual convention in Biloxi. With Rev. Pollard are, left to right, Jim Buffington, Aberdeen, immediate past president; Ken Bailey, Hattiesburg, president; Mrs. Robin Mathis, Houston; Mathis; Mrs. Fanny Mae Cothran, Lexington, a past president; Pollard; Dr. Earl Kelly, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board executive secretary-treasurer; and Don McGregor, associate editor, Baptist Record. The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board was host for the luncheon.

My Bible Is True

(Continued from page 1)

is true. I am going to live by it; I am going to die believing it and trusting the Savior I have found through it; I am going to live eternally with the God who inspired it.

In the meantime I am going to study it with the help of all the theological scholars the world can produce. I will be grateful to those scholars who help me while ignoring those who do not.

If God had thought I needed an inerrant, infallible, verbally-inspired copy of the Bible, he would have preserved the original text on a golden tablet. God has not left me without anything necessary for my salvation. We may use all of the strong language we want about the original autographs of the Bible, but my faith can survive with the holy Scripture available to me today. The differences in the ancient texts are not all that great.

Please do not put any barriers against the faith of simple Christians who assume that the Holy Spirit can guide them into the truth with any copy of the Bible that happens to be handy. Let those among us who are helped thereby discuss the infallibility of the original autographs, but let scholars keep working to produce better copies of the Bible in English for some of us to use in our daily living.

After all, even an original autograph would require the interpretation of the Holy Spirit to make it come alive as God's Word in my life. Indeed, the Holy Spirit is the agent of the infallible, redeeming truth which permeates my thought, mind, and hard heart. Thank you, God, for my Bible and for the Holy Spirit who makes it the living Word within me.

From "The Tie," June, 1975

H. H. Ward Dies

Buses Scheduled

Rev. Homer Hutchins Ward, 68, retired Baptist minister and former school teacher, died Friday at Montfort Jones Memorial Hospital, Kosciusko, following a heart attack at his home. Born in Lake County, he had lived in Kosciusko 25 years. He served as superintendent of Missions for the Attala Baptist Association for 19 years. Prior to that he had been a pastor of churches at Grand Bay, Ala., also at New Albany and Ecru in Mississippi. Just prior to going to Kosciusko he had served as superintendent of missions for Baptist Associations at Winona and New Albany. He had also taught school in Attala and Leake Counties, serving as principal of schools where he taught.

Services were held Saturday at 4 p. m. at First Baptist Church, Kosciusko, with Dr. Harold Kitchens and Rev. E. L. Jackson officiating. Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Homer Ward, Kosciusko; two sons, Harold Ward of Biloxi, Joe Ward, Huntsville, Ala.; one daughter, Mrs. Sheila Ann Stone, Greenville; one brother, six sisters, 10 grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

Those interested in a trip to Glorieta should contact David Roddy, First Baptist Church, Jackson, P. O. Box 1158, Jackson 3205.

Those interested in going to Ridgecrest should contact Ms. Helen Turney, 3265 Fox Briar, Memphis 38118. Round-trip from Memphis to Ridgecrest is \$25. Other expenses are approximately \$50.

The rates to Glorieta vary as one bus will make a more extended trip than the other.

Jasper Phillip Neel, son of Rev. and Mrs. Jasper P. Neel, Belzoni, received a Ph.D. in English language and literature from the University of Tennessee at the recent spring commencement in Knoxville. Dr. Neel, who has

accepted a position in the English Department at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, received a B. A. with honors from Mississippi College and an M. A. from University of Tennessee. As a graduate teaching assistant at UT, he served as chairman of the English Graduate Student Association for two years and was awarded the John C. Hodges Fellowship for Excellence in Teaching English Composition and the John Emperor Dissertation - Year Fellowship. Dr. Neel, whose wife, the former Bege Kay Bowers, also completed the coursework for a Ph.D. in English during the recent spring quarter, will join the Library Faculty at Baylor this fall.

Nick C. Smith, a lay preacher, is available for pulpit supply. He is a member of Corinth Church of Magee. He graduated from Utica High School, Hinds Junior College, Mississippi State University with a B. A. degree in social work and sociology. He was converted to Christ in April of 1973. He was employed by Ellisville State School from November 1973 through August 1974. He has one year of theological training from a Baptist theological seminary. He may be contacted through the following address: Corinth Baptist Church, Route 2, Box 120, Magee, MS 39111. (Phone 849-2795). Rev. Billy Guest is the Corinth pastor.

T. Phillips (Phil) Heard, Broadman sales consultant at the Baptist Sunday School Board, has been named manager of the Baptist Book Store in Atlanta.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDITORIAL

Looking Ahead In World Missions

In the four days immediately preceding the recent convention in Miami Beach, approximately 300 Southern Baptists had the privilege of taking a close look at the Southern Baptist program of world missions, in the light of the needs of the last quarter of this century.

There were missionary executives, missionaries, pastors, state executive secretaries, editors, laymen, women, and a number of national leaders from countries where Southern Baptists carry on mission work.

The meeting was a "consultation" on Southern Baptist foreign mission work. It was held at a large "hotel" resort, in the northern edge of Miami Beach. For four days, from Wednesday evening to Sunday noon, these workers studied missions, heard papers on missions, prayed together about missions, and spent many hours in groups discussing the mission program. The Foreign Mission Board had requested that participants really take a full look at the whole mission program, and come up with reactions, suggestions, and ideas concerning the plans now being projected.

As one heard the missionaries, mission executives and Baptist leaders from other countries, and spent many hours in discussing the mission program with them, he came to new insights as to the comprehensiveness of the Southern Baptist foreign mission program. He also was able to begin to recognize some of the problem areas, to sense some of the urgent needs, and to feel the pulse of national leaders who were expressing what they felt needed to be done now in mission work in their lands.

From the group discussion reports came to the whole body for further discussion and then went on to a findings committee, which brought a partial report before the consultation ended. We say partial, since the committee was to meet again before its final report was to be made to the Foreign Mission Board. Also, similar findings are coming from consultations among the missionaries on the fields, and from the national leadership in many countries. Out of all of this the board will seek to come to conclusions as to any changes which need to be made in its ministries, and how it can make its program most effective.

It was a privilege to be a participant in this conference. While I felt that I had a rather broad general knowledge of the foreign mission enterprise of the convention, I came to realize in this conference that my knowledge actually was quite limited. New insights, new concepts, and new ideas all came. I was deeply impressed with the sincere purpose of the board's leadership, to find the finest and most effective ways of giving the witness of Christ to the whole world. The board was willing to lay its whole program out and allow it to be dissected and examined. Where there are weaknesses they came forth, where there are needs, they were made evident, and where there was strength it clearly came through.

We feel that we shall have a new appreciation of and understanding of the Southern Baptist mission effort, because we attended this meeting.

We also feel that the board will be able to do more effective work during the next 25 years, because it heard the ideas and suggestions of so many interested Baptists during these days.

Pray For The Baptist World Congress

Representatives of the Baptists of the world are assembled in Stockholm this week in the thirteenth Baptist world congress, of the Baptist World Alliance. All of us should be much in prayer for this meeting.

The Alliance is comprised of most of the Baptist groups of the world, and was formed in the first world congress in London in 1905. During the intervening years it has held congresses at approximately five year intervals, except when World War I and World War II hindered.

The Baptist World Alliance is a fellowship, with no organizational structure that involves institutions or agencies. There are no colleges, no seminaries, and no mission boards, for all of those, under Baptist polity are left to the denominational organizations. The only

fund raising program is for relief. Budget support comes from member denominations.

The Alliance does have commissions which make careful study of various issues which effect Baptists, such as doctrine, Christian unity, war and peace, religious liberty, etc. These commissions bring reports to the congress sessions. Programs in the congress also include reports from the various nations where Baptist work exists, inspirational messages, etc.

According to the latest reports from the World Alliance there are now approximately thirty-three and one-half million Baptists in 138 countries of the world, with approximately twenty-eight million in 98 countries working in fellowship with the Baptist World Alliance.

The Southern Baptist Convention,

with more than 12,000,000 members, is, of course, the largest Baptist body in the world, and will have the largest representation present at the Stockholm meeting. Several Mississippians are among them.

Charges sometimes are made that the Baptist World Alliance is ecumenical (inter-denominational) but those making the accusation are mistaken. It is true that some Baptist groups within the alliance cooperates with some of the ecumenical bodies. This is true of the American Baptist Convention which is a participant in the National Council of Churches, and we are sure that it is true of some other Baptist groups in this and other countries.

The Alliance, however, is a fellowship of Baptists and nothing more. Through it Baptists have contacts with other Baptists. The Alliance cannot speak for any denomination which fellowships with it, nor for a single church or Baptist in one of those denominational groups. Neither does the Alliance have authority over any of them. The full independence of each Baptist church is recognized in the Alliance even as it is in the denominational organizations.

Yet, through this organization Baptists of one group can know other Baptists, and Baptists of one nation can be acquainted with Baptists of other nations. Actually the greatest benefit of such a relationship probably comes to the smaller Baptist groups in the various countries of the world. Their participation in the alliance with the giant Baptist Fellowships especially in America, gives strength and prestige to their witness. Yet, Southern Baptists, as the largest of the groups, also receive rich blessings simply by getting to know and fellowship Baptists from other lands. The whole Baptist witness is strengthened because the Alliance exists and the world congresses are held.

Large numbers of our people should attend the remaining meetings, and every church in the districts should be represented. If nothing has been done about it in your church, we urge that action be taken now.

The remaining meetings are as follows: July 14, Clarksdale (Clarksdale Church); 15, Batesville; 17, Holly Springs; 18, Tupelo (Calvary); 28, Kosciusko; 29, Starkville. All meetings are at 7:00 o'clock, and at First Baptist church unless otherwise stated.

When you read this, more than one half of the "Decade of Advance" area meetings will have been held. However, six of the meetings still are ahead, and EVERY CHURCH in the areas of the meetings will be very wise to try to have the pastor and a representative group of church leaders present.

Last week your editor had the privilege of attending one of the meetings in Jackson. The program was a challenging one which revealed that Mississippi Baptists are moving into an era of advance, and which urged those attending to seek to lead their churches to join in the great plans which are being projected.

The program includes a panel by convention board leaders discussing just what needs to be done, and is projected to be done in Mis-

sissippi in coming years, a slide presentation showing some of the projects and plans, and a stirring call, by Dr. Earl Kelly, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Convention Board, asking for united action. One came away from the meeting with a sense that he had felt the heart-beat of Mississippi Baptist life right now.

Large numbers of our people should attend the remaining meetings, and every church in the districts should be represented. If nothing has been done about it in your church, we urge that action be taken now.

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NEWEST BOOKS

WYCLIFF BIBLE ENCYCLOPEDIA edited by Charles F. Pfleiffer, Howard F. Voos and John Rea (Moody Press, 2 volumes, 1851 pp., \$29.95 until Dec. 26, 1975). A complete Bible library at one's fingertips. Complete enough to cover almost every subject with remarkable scholarship, yet concise and inexpensive enough to meet the needs of those who are not scholars, and even the laymen. More than 200 scholars are used in the writing. Subjects covered include Bible persons, places, events and teachings. Theological terms and subjects are included. Coverage on important subjects is thorough. For example, under the subject "Bible" there are 28 double column pages, with references to several related articles. The book is written from a theologically conservative point of view, with an acceptance of the Bible as the infallible revelation of God. Hundreds of splendid modern illustrations are used, and the maps are some of the newest and finest available. This will be an invaluable reference set that will be used again and again. Being completely new, it includes the latest findings of scholarship. Money spent for this set will be well spent.

ALIVE AND PAST 65 by Franklin M. Segler (Broadman, 124 pp.). Dr. Segler is minister of pastoral care at Broadway Church, Fort Worth. He began that work when he retired in 1972 after 21 years as professor of pastoral ministry at Southwestern Seminary. Retirement at 65 makes some people feel they are cut off from the world, but Dr. Segler reached 65 and thanked God he was alive! From that point in this book he makes the kind of affirmations which every older person has the right to make, and gives wise and compassionate counsel to the aging. His closing chapter, "The Best Is Yet To Be," glows with hope.

WINNING AMERICA TO CHRIST by Jarey Weber (Broadman Press, \$3.95, 125 pp.). Dr. Weber, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, believes that America is still reachable for Christ. This book is a call to mobilization, a challenge to individual Christians and churches to mount an evangelistic thrust that will transform the tide of history.

OUTREACH: GOD'S MIRACLE BUSINESS by Elvis Marcum, with foreword by Kenneth Chaffin (Broadman, paper,

151 pp., \$2.95) Graceland Church, New Albany, Indiana, is one of the fastest-growing churches in America. Pastor Marcum says that the key to ministry and outreach is the involvement of lay people. When the laity of Graceland find a need, they start a ministry. This book offers suggestions on how "to blanket a community for Christ."

A COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE CHRISTIAN'S BUDGET by Michael L. Speer (Broadman, 170 pp.) Here is everything the Christian needs to know about his budget — how to begin one, having the right attitude about spending, taking care of unpaid bills, spending with a purpose, using credit wisely, giving as a responsible Christian, teaching children how to use money, planning ahead, estate planning, buying insurance, saving and investing.

SHADOWS WE RUN FROM by Nelson L. Price (Broadman, 122 pp., \$1.50, or BRP \$1.10) A Georgia pastor who is a Mississippian native in this book gives inspiration to the reader to bravely face the challenges of life. He says that to face the shadows of life, right actions — as well as right attitudes — are essential.

"MEANWHILE, THE CRIME RATE WAS RISING RAPIDLY ACROSS THE EARTH, AND, AS SEEN BY GOD, THE WORLD WAS ROTTEN TO THE CORE." — GEN. 6:11 (LIVING BIBLE)



THE BAPTIST FORUM

Urge Families To Invite Village Children

Dear Dr. Odle:

I read with interest and approval your June 12 editorial on Vietnam refugees and hope many Mississippi Baptist churches will respond.

Again this week, June 19, I read with even greater interest an article from our Children's Village.

It is indeed difficult to believe that with 181,500 resident Baptist families living in Mississippi, our Village staff is having a problem of finding 100 families who are willing to open their hearts and homes for only two weeks to a group of children living in an institution, away from parents and home, through no fault of their own.

This is a plea. Share your home and family with a child for two weeks. Yes, there may be problems; for these children come from problem homes; but true Christians accept this type of problems as a challenge. A personal interest and love can and has solved many of these. Please, Mississippi Christians, let's open our hearts and homes to our children at our Village.

From one who has had the privilege of living with these children and know how they look forward all year to having two weeks away from the institution that is so great, but can never take the place of a home.

A concerned Baptist

Light for Living

— Chester E. Swor

Lesson From A Clock

I read a delightful little episode from a bulletin; but since it was anonymously listed I cannot tell you its author. I can assure you however, that it challenged me to some constructive thinking. Here is the item:

"A little clock in a jeweler's window stopped one morning at twenty minutes after eight. It remained silent and inactive for half an hour. School children, looking at the clock, stopped to play; people hurrying to the train began to walk more slowly; professional men paused for a while to chat. All were late because one clock stopped. These people had never known how much they depended on that clock until it led them astray."

If that clock had been a person — any one of us, for instance — it would probably have been surprised that its influence on the actions of other people had been that determining. And, insofar as persons are concerned, there is no individual so insignificant that he does not influence at least one other person . . . and, perhaps, many persons; and the larger the person's personality impact is, the wider and deeper will be the impact of his influence. One of the poets said it thus:

"My life shall touch a dozen lives
Before this day is done;
Leave countless marks for good or ill,
Ere sets the evening sun.
So this the wish I always wish,
The prayer I ever pray:

LORD, MAY MY LIFE HELP OTHER LIVES IT TOUCHES BY THE WAY."

And we recall Paul's pungent reminders: "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak (Romans 14:21) . . . They which live should not henceforth live unto themselves (II Cor. 5:15)."

Each of us may well ask this searching question: IF OTHER PEOPLE SHOULD SET THEIR LIFE CLOCKS AFTER MINE, HOW NEARLY ACCURATE WOULD THEIR LIVES BE IN FOLLOWING CHRIST?

(Published by special arrangement with Dr. Chester Swor, 902 Whitworth Street, Jackson, Mississippi)

Finds Flaw In Divorce Statistics

Dear Sirs:

There is a fundamental flaw in Mr. A. L. Nelson's analysis of Mississippi and Baptist divorce statistics as reported on page 1 of the June 12 Baptist Record. To reach his conclusions one must assume one out of every two marriages ends in divorce every year, which is, of course, not true.

For example, Mr. Nelson states that Baptists would have had 65,750 divorces in 1973 alone if the national averages were applied to Mississippi Baptists. He reaches that conclusion by applying the one out of two national average (1/2) to the number of Mississippi Baptist family unit (131,500). One-half of 131,500 is 67,750. But to make this statement all 67,750 divorces would have occurred in the year 1973! Fortunately this didn't happen. There were only 10,787 divorces of all faiths, as he states.

I suggest that in the future you have Baptist statistics to be reported in the Baptist Record reviewed by someone with a mathematics background. I am sure that you would want our statistics and any conclusions drawn therefrom to be as accurate as possible.

C. H. Heiden

Jackson

(Statistics can be confusing, and almost any conclusion can be drawn from them. That is why we do not use them often.—Ed.)

On The MORAL SCENE...

CRIME INCREASES — According to preliminary figures contained in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports, serious crime in the United States rose 17 percent in 1974 . . . The violent crimes of murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault increased 11 percent as a group. . . Suburban law enforcement agencies reported a 20 - percent rise in the volume of crime, while the rural areas reported an increase of 21 percent. Cities with 100,000 or more inhabitants reported an increase of 13 percent. Geographically, the Southern States report-

ed a 21 percent rise in the volume of Crime Index offenses. Crime in the North Central States was up 17 percent, in the Northeastern States 15 percent, and in the Western States 13 percent. (FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, June 1975)

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Film Crews In State For Baptist Movie



Dr. Earl Kelly, Mississippi Baptist executive secretary-treasurer, left; Rev. J. C. Renfroe, center, director of missions in Rankin County Association; and Rev. Fred Tarpley, director of missions in Hinds-Madison Association, confer in Dr. Kelly's office while the camera rolls.



Action being filmed at Old Canaan Church.

Filming from inside at Old Canaan Church.

MBCB employees act as extras in the Baptist Building lobby.



Mrs. Dolton Haggan, left, missionary who works with Indians in Mississippi, assists with preparation work at Old Canaan Church.



A mission Bible story time near Morton is recorded on film.

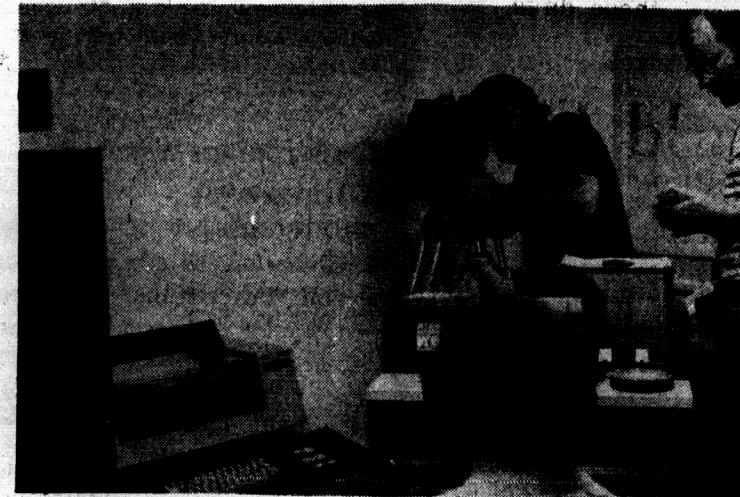


Indians in tribal dress at Old Canaan Church near Edinburg.



Maywood Mart in Jackson is the subject of the camera crew's interest.

Churches were photographed. This one is Calvary Church, Jackson.



The Baptist Hospital's computer operation makes an interesting study.

Churches were photographed. This one is Calvary Church, Jackson.

FMB Appoints 25

(Continued from page 1)

Convention (SBC) leadership groups; a five-day mission consultation involving denominational leaders, missionaries, Baptist nationals, board members and staff personnel was conducted in Miami Beach; and that missionaries in each country where Southern Baptists have mission work are now conducting strategy studies.

He announced that background material including recommendations from the consultation, dialogue sessions and mission meetings will be provided to 13 work groups, each composed of five board members and three staff members. Special assignments will be given to each group and work sessions will be held in August, September, and October.

The work groups, Caughen said, will report their findings to the full board at the October meeting. The suggestions will be referred back to the coordinating committee which will work out a proposal for advance.

Such a proposal will be brought before the full board in November or December. The new strategy would then be presented to the convention's Executive Committee in February and finally to the SBC meeting in Norfolk, Va., in June, 1976.

Of the \$122,000 appropriated for relief, \$86,000 was designated for housing and medical needs in Bangladesh, \$30,000 for refugee

relief in Angola, \$5,000 to assist Vietnamese refugees in Thailand, and \$1,000 for families affected by a bus accident in Dominica.

Financial Settlement

The provisions for missionaries to Vietnam and Laos who lost personal goods include a financial settlement to cover losses up to 10,000 for families and up to \$1,000 for Missionary Journeymen (two-year program for young college graduates). An outfit allowance and a freight allowance will also be provided.

The 25 new missionaries, appointed to serve in 12 countries, included 11 couples and three single persons.

Those appointed included Mr. and Mrs. Gerald C. Davis of Alabama and Mississippi, to the Philippines, and Mr. and Mrs. Tony G. Latham of Tennessee and Mississippi, to the Philippines.

Bible Teacher Training Conference Set Oct. 13-14

By Bryant Cummings

Sunday School Dept. Director

A Sunday School Bible Teaching

Training Conference will be held

Oct. 13-14 for selected association

al Sunday School teachers at Broadmoor Church, Jackson.

Each Association in the state is invited to select or elect an association teacher for preschool

children, youth, adult and general officers.

These selected teachers will be in con-

ferences beginning Monday night

October 13 at 6:45 p.m. with adjournment Tuesday night at 9:30

p.m. Orientation and teaching help

will be provided for these associa-

tional teachers in order that they

might return to their associations

to teach the Sunday School mate-

rial to local Sunday School work-

ers in the individual churches.

Conferences Leaders for this

Clinic are as follows:

Preschool, Mary Elizabeth Headland, First Baptist Church,

Houston, Texas, "Guiding Pre-

schoolers."

Children, Bob Fulbright, Sunday

School Board, Nashville, "Guiding

Children."

Youth, Dennis Conniff, III, Sun-

day School Board, Nashville, "Guiding Children."

Adult, Myrtle Veach, Sunday

School Board, Nashville, "Teach-

ing and Learning with Adults."

General Officers, Bernie Spoon-

er, Travis Avenue Baptist Church,

Fort Worth, Texas.

The 16mm color film, "An

American Time Capsule," will be

shown each evening at 6:45 p.m.

A Bible study period will be held

prior to each of the four confer-

ence periods led by Dr. Kenneth

Chafin, pastor, South Main Bap-

tist Church, Houston, Texas.

Music for the conference will be

led by Dan C. Hall, Church Music

Department Director, Mississippi

Baptist Convention, with Mrs.

Janet Irwin, accompanist, Broad-

moor Baptist Church, Jackson.

The Mississippi and Nashville

Sunday School Departments will

provide the following financial

supplement to each association se-

lected teacher and director of

missions:

Mileage, 10 cents per mile (limit

2 cars per association).

Motel, \$5 per night (limit two

nights).

Meals-Tips, \$2 per meal.

Each individual from the asso-

ciations should come prepared to

pay for his motel, meals, and gas-

oline as everyone will be reimbur-

sed by check following the

meeting.

Write or call the state Sunday

School department in Jackson for

information concerning this

Teaching-Training Conference.

You know, I must have thought

of a million things, give or take a

few, that I wanted to tell you

while I couldn't. So I've got things

to write about stacked up like

both of us have last week's clothes

stacked on the ironing board.

Catching up on my writing will

be more fun than catching up on

my ironing. It's sort of like I have

two ironing boards and feel a de-

cisional partiality to one.



A Woman's World Reaches Far Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilda Fancher

We have a little ritual that developed at our house recently because, bad as she hates to admit it, Mama has come to the age at which she doesn't always have enough energy left to wait up perpendicularly for everybody spending the night at home to get in from wherever. So sometimes she waits horizontally. But she doesn't sleep really soundly — usually not at all — until the boys are in. Then she goes to sleep almost before the door lock has finished clicking.

It is required that arrival home be reported verbally at our bedroom door, for I sometimes do nap a bit and miss the sound of the car turning into the drive or the turn of the key in the lock, or the footsteps in the hall.

"I'm here" or "It's me" or "I'm home" is the simple report, unless the boy wants to come in to talk, hit Dad up for some more money, or find out what's in the kitchen to eat.

My reply to "I'm here" sometimes changed from "O.K." or "It's high time" or "Good" to "I'm glad."

So, today I get to say to you, "I'm here."

And many of you'll say, "I'm glad."

But don't go to sleep!

I really missed you. The last few years of my life have been so crammed full that I thought having one weekly deadline pressure off would be such a relief that I wouldn't miss you. But I was wrong. Really wrong.

You know, I must have thought of a million things, give or take a few, that I wanted to tell you while I couldn't. So I've got things to write about stacked up like both of us have last week's clothes stacked on the ironing board.

Catching up on my writing will be more fun than catching up on my ironing. It's sort of like I have two ironing boards and feel a decisional partiality to one.

And you know which one.

one of 33 in large metropolitan

areas to improve Sunday School

skills of young adult and pre-

school workers.

Sunsets

By Ruby Buckley

Sunsets are special to me. In each place we have lived we have had a private spot to watch them. In Natchez it was on the East bank of the Mississippi River. In Corinth, our own back yard, and occasionally the children and I would hop in the car and go to a high hill just outside of town.

One day John David, Paul and Joyce came running in yelling for me to "Come outside QUICK!" I thought Ben had fallen and took off almost forgetting to open the door first. When I got to the spot where they stopped they threw their arms back and exclaimed, "Look!" They found that one for me.

In Bogalusa, I found a good view in one of the larger cemeteries. It was the only place I could find where people were not pushing to get in.

I'm really not sure why I love them so. And in this, I prefer not to analyze, but enjoy.

In October of 1971 I stood by the Sea of Galilee and watched one of the most beautiful that God has ever painted. I think He did that one just for me. And there was another special one as I stood on the Mount of Olives overlooking Jerusalem.

Sunsets are like life. It ends more beautifully than it begins if we have walked with God through faith in Jesus Christ, His Son.

And at this time of the day I find myself wishing I could for a few precious minutes stand with loved ones. My immediate family and the larger family of God — hand in hand and walk with them.

The pull toward my Heavenly Father, who lavishly paints a new picture each day for His children to enjoy, is especially strong when I watch a sunset.

He even takes the clouds and uses them to enhance its beauty. I'm glad our God is like that!

Have you watched a sunset lately?

Write or call the state Sunday

School department in Jackson for

information concerning this

Teaching-Training Conference.

Metro Advance Meet

At 7 p.m. Sept. 18

A Young Adult - Preschool Metro Advance conference will be held at First Church, Jackson, from 7 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. on September 18.

In an earlier publishing of this schedule the beginning time was inadvertently left off.

The meeting in Jackson will be

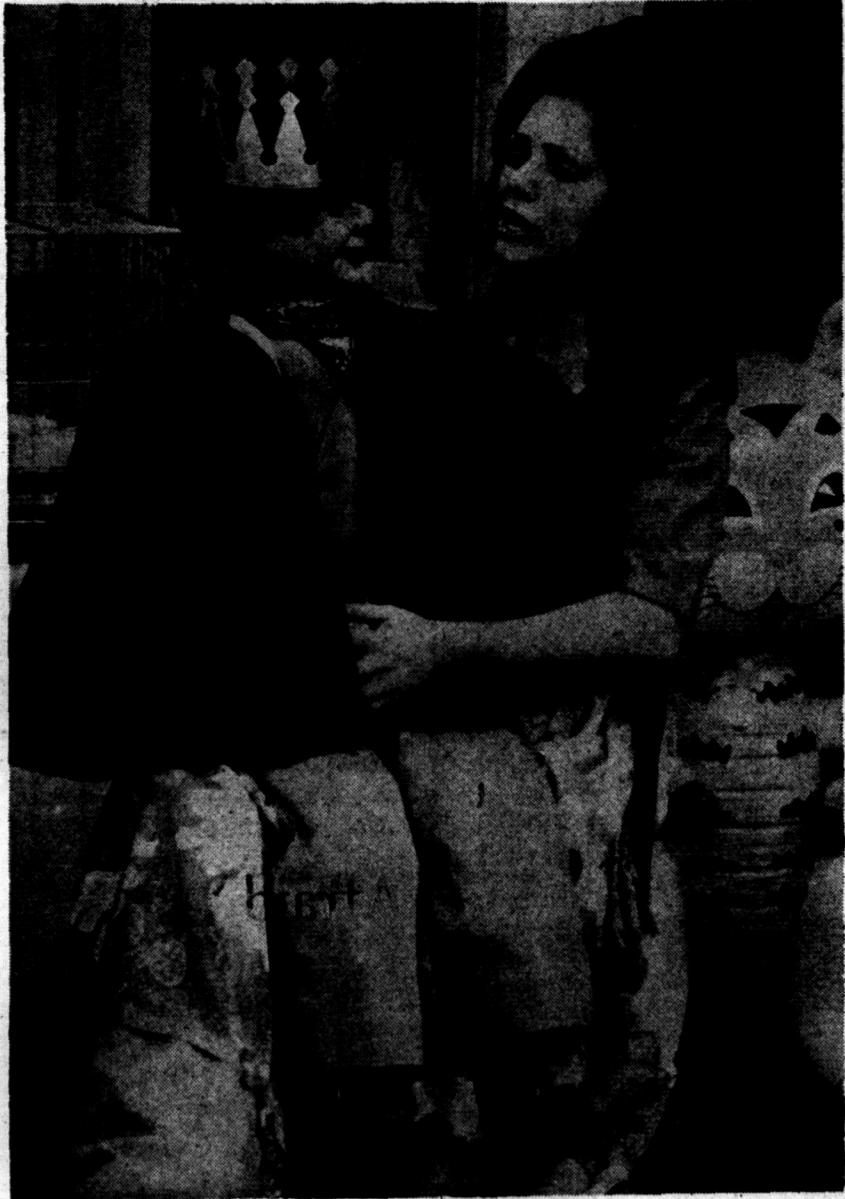
Doctor Of . . .

(Continued from page 1)

doctor of ministries degree pro-

gram at New Orleans Seminary.

Therman Bryant, associate in the Cooperative Missions Department for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, said the group



Ann Marie Fairchild and Jackie

Broadman Features Ventriloquist In Four New Motion Pictures

NASHVILLE — Four new motion pictures featuring ventriloquist Ann Marie Fairchild and her dummy Jackie have been released by Broadman films and are now available through Baptist Film Centers.

Ann Marie, Jackie and a clown named Sparky travel around the world telling Bible stories. Through song and conversation, they present Bible truths in a unique way.

Filmed before an audience at the Grand Ole Opry studios in Nashville, the motion pictures are "God Can Use Me," showing that God wants us to use our talents for him; "God Has a Plan," showing that if God can use a little piece of wood, he can use anything and anybody; "In Tune With God," pointing out the importance of prayer; and "Who Is Pulling Your Strings," paralleling Ann Marie's control of Jackie's strings to the control of Jesus in the lives of those who yield to him.

A Mississippian, Ann Marie is the daughter of Southern Baptists Al Fairchild, a magician-minister, and Molly Fairchild, also a ventriloquist.

Miss Fairchild has served with evangelists E. J. Daniels, Bill Glass, Moody Adams, Hymn Appliance, James Robinson and Sharber Smith and with such lec-

turers as Maj. Ian Thomas and Chester Swor.

Now realizing her childhood dreams of becoming a missionary and an actress, a combination which many told her could not be accomplished, Miss Fairchild is quick to give God credit for the blending of these careers.

"Jackie and I do mission work because we go all over the world telling people about Jesus," she says, "and I am somewhat of an actress. I even play both parts. I also enjoy writing my own scripts as I did in school so many years ago. I no longer get discouraged over the statements of others like 'Ann Marie, you can't just go back to the story that Jesus told in Matt. 20: 14-30, and that gives me the boost I need to use the abilities that God gave me to use for him."

Each film is in color, runs for 12 minutes, and rents for \$12. Broadman CAVE (Church Audio-Visual Education) Plan members may charge the rental fee against their CAVE usage balance.

Children's Memory Plan Introduced

NASHVILLE — Children memorizing Bible verses during the formative years of later childhood have a source of strength for a lifetime, according to Robert G. Fulbright, supervisor of the children's section, Sunday School department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Because of the importance of older children memorizing Scriptures, a 14 member task force was organized to design a children's memory program. A perennial emphasis called the Bible Searchers Memory Plan was announced recently by Fulbright as a result of work done by the task force.

The Bible Searchers Memory Plan is a simple plan encouraging fifth and sixth graders to memorize Bible verses, Scripture passages and books of the Bible.

Basically, the memory plan will remain the same from year to year, with Bible verses and larger blocks of Scripture changing each year in keeping with curriculum units. A different theme also will be used each year.

Each child participating in the plan should have a copy of the booklet "Bible Searchers Memory Plan," available on the regular church literature order form for 47 cents per copy.



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Today's Youth



Richland Youth Sing "Jesus Who?"
The youth choir of Richland Church, Plain, presented the youth musical-drama "Jesus Who?" Sunday, June 15, at Richland. They again presented it on June 25 at the Ridgeland Church. Danny Stewart and Delbo Neely sang the lead roles. John McGraw, Richland minister of music, composed the music. Paul Williamson is the Richland pastor.

Life

Life is not coming up to a brick wall and slowly chiseling your way through but building upon a rough speed to run headlong into it hoping you'll make a dent.

—Mark Leggett

To Sing In Nashville

Rudy Cheryl Lovett, age eight, of Laurel, will sing on the Jimmy Snow Gospel Hour, WSM Nashville, 650 on the radio dial, at 11:05 p.m. on July 11. Having won several honors in music, she is an "A" student at Powers Elementary School east of Laurel. She has cut a record to be released in July ("Me and Jesus" on Side 1 and "One Day At A Time" on Side 2). Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Lovett, are members of Emmanuel Church, Rev. Joe Lofton, pastor. Rudy Cheryl may be contacted for singing engagements c/o R. B. Lovett, Route 8, Laurel 39440 (phone 428-5891).

Student Leader To Speak In Delta Crusade

David Stockwell of Baton Rouge will be the speaker for the Delta Area Crusade to be held at Ruleville Junior High Football Field, July 13-16, at 7:30 p.m.

From Baton Rouge, he was a behavioral science major at Rice University, and a three year letterman as an offensive guard for the Owls. He was also President of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Rev. Jack Moore, pastor of Ruleville Church, says, "Don't miss the chance to hear him tell how his life was changed by a friend he met. He takes a drastic stand, but America needs a change to stay alive. He has been called by writers in newspapers in many places as one of the most revolutionary speakers on the college campuses today. The revolution he speaks of is of love and peace, through the Prince of Peace, the greatest Revolutionary who ever lived."

POWERLINE

A Straight Line to Teens

Dr. J. P. Allen, Director, Audience Response

PRINCIPLES IMPORTANT IN CHOICES

Understanding the Bible means understanding the broad principles as well as the specifics. This 20-year-old student seeks insights.

I am a vegetarian for ecological and moral reasons. I can't bring myself to eat meat knowing that I'm indirectly killing animals, especially when I can get all my nutrition from alternate sources. Besides, doesn't the Bible command "abstain from eating meat"?

We suggested that this young man give some attention to the conditions and culture in which these references appeared.

Some prohibitions on meat-eating appear in the Bible, but it is important to understand the background of these restrictions. In the Old Testament the reasons were dietary and nationalistic. The Hebrews had no refrigeration and spoilage of meat was inevitable. This restriction was also a mark of distinction separating them from heathen nations.

In the New Testament the position is not on rightness or wrongness of eating meat but on how it appeared in that culture. Christianity came into a pagan environment where animals were sacrificed to idols and then meat from those ceremonies was eaten by the worshippers. This act symbolized one's identity with Graeco-Roman gods. Paul warned that the unbeliever might misunderstand and think the Christian was trying to straddle a religious fence. Still he indicates that it is a matter of personal choice—not a moral issue.

The New Testament believer is under great principles, not under laws. We have great issues set before us, and we must make our choices on the basis of our foundation in Christ.

POWERLINE is a 30-minute program for teens produced by Southern Baptist Radio-TV Commission and carried by 771 stations. Write for a station list, Box 12157, Fort Worth, Texas 76116.



1st, Grenada Premieres "The Clown"

The regional premier of "The Clown" was presented by the Youth Choir of First Church, Grenada. The 18 member cast and 75 member chorus presented the musical on June 26 in the Christian Activities Building. "The busy streets and sidewalks suddenly grow still as a man comes through the entrance of the city, as He touches and heals the blind man with a little piece of clay . . ." These words are from this new musical by Carl Mays. "The streets and sidewalks could be our own; however, there is no mistake as to the identity of the man—He is Jesus." The excerpt talks about Jesus using what he had available to help others. The musical accordingly, uses an ordinary man whom people often belittle and call a clown to bring several young people to a knowledge of Jesus.



Missionaries To Montana

Students from Mississippi colleges in Montana for the summer will work in Vacation Bible Schools, survey work, and summer camps. The group was screened by the Mississippi Brotherhood Department and traveled to Rapid City, S. D. June 1 for Northern Plains Convention orientation. They are working under supervision of Montana directors of associational missions, Glenn Field and W. J. Hughes. Pictured are: Back row, l to r: Becky Burford, Barry Gates, Jan Mitchell, Bruce Cardin, Brenda Palmer, Sandra Millican, Joanne Myrick. Front Row: Alisa Johnson, Lee Ann Feaster, Linda O'Neil, Donna Jones, Norval Sykes.

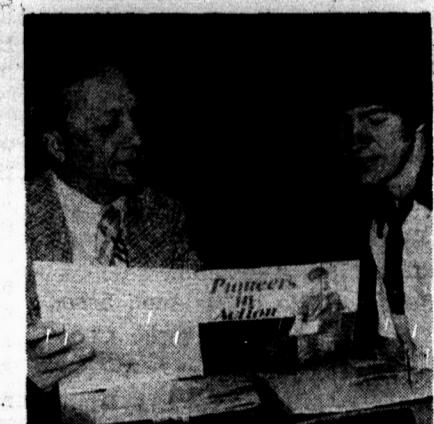
In Corpus Christi

Cathy Abrams, member of Second Baptist Church, Indiana, is working as a BSU summer mission in Corpus Christi, Texas. A music education major at Mississippi Delta Junior College, she was third alternate in the Miss Mississippi Junior College Pageant. She is the daughter of Joe Abrams, III, professor at Mississippi Delta Junior College, and granddaughter of Joe Abrams of Clinton, former associate editor of the Baptist Record, now retired.



Freshman From Alaska

A freshman at Blue Mountain College is Mari Cannon, center, of Ketchikan, Alaska, whose sister Melodie graduated from the college in 1972. On hand to assist Miss Cannon with registration are Deborah Nolan (left), of Pittsboro, and Melinda Self of Pontotoc (right).



MK Produces African Art

Discovering a talent that he is just now finding expression for is Charles Moore, above, student at William Carey College from Ghana, West Africa. The son of medical missionaries, Dr. and Mrs. Walter Moore, Charles has spent the greater portion of his life amidst the scenes he vividly sketches in pen and ink for his art professor, Lucille Parker. Most of the sketches in his portfolio are produced from mental images of his childhood home life in the village of Jionkrama, Nigeria.



To Work In RA Camps

Artis Lynn Evans (right) of Route 5, Laurel, bones up for an assignment as a Royal Ambassador camp worker. Providing the orientation is Bob Banks, executive assistant at the Brotherhood Commission. Young Evans, a music major at the University of Southern Mississippi, will work in camps in New Mexico, Arizona, and Colorado. (Photo by Tim Fields)

Banquet At Cherry Creek

The Girls in Action of Cherry Creek Church, Pontotoc County, recently honored their mothers with a Mother-Daughter Banquet, with the help of their leader, Mrs. Ann Reeder. Their theme was "Come Away With Me to Hawaii."

The God Of Christian Growth

By William J. Fallis
Ephesians 4; Philippians 3;
John 3:1-3

Goals are different in various sports. The speed swimmer tries to tag up before all others in the race. The shortstop plays to help his team make the most runs and shut off the other team with good fielding. The golfer wants the fewest strokes in tournament play. They all play to win. Sometimes church life gets that way. One congregation tries to get more members than other churches in the city. Another constructs an expensive building to attract a certain kind of member. A third develops a varied program for meeting specialized

needs in the community. All three are working to win, and that is good. Churches are not intended to lose. They need new members, good buildings, and experiences planned to meet needs. But the final goal of Christian growth is to become more like Christ.

The Lesson Explained
To Be A Whole Person in Christ
Eph. 4:11-16

Verse 11 lists the ministries of the church as gifts of Christ, and the next verse summarizes their total work. Modern writers on church renewal claim that since there is no punctuation in Greek, no comma should appear after "saints." So, the various ministries in the church — such as prophets, evangelists, and teachers — are to help all the members minister or serve.

With that kind of help, Paul expected believers to gain oneness

in faith and knowledge of the Son of God and in whole maturity be "measured by nothing less than the full stature of Christ" (NEB). Thus mature, they would know what they believed and why; they would not be like children at sea, victimized by first one crafty teacher and then another. Instead, they would live according to truth and love and so grow up in every way in their fellowship with Christ. As the head of the church, he controls the different parts of that body and makes them a unity. When they are working properly, the body grows "and builds itself up through love" (TEV) with whole persons in Christ.

To Fulfill His Calling In Christ
Phil. 3:12-16

In the verses preceding this passage Paul has been discussing his Jewish background and personal devotion to the law (vv. 5-6) and

his willingness to give up all that for the righteousness which God gave through Christ. But fearing that his readers might think he was writing as though he had "arrived" in the faith, Paul speaks out against "perfectionism" in these verses.

Although he had been establishing churches, Paul had not reached perfection. Instead, he was pressing on, "hoping to take hold of that for which Christ once took hold of me" (NEB). Then the picture of the runner came to his mind, and he compared himself to the man in a race who is straining every muscle and focusing every thought on reaching the goal — not preoccupied with the past, whether good or bad.

That goal is "the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (RSV). He had responded to God's first call, the commitment to God in faith which was conversion. But that first step is not the last; it is the beginning of something great.

the rank of colonel.

It was while he was assistant pastor at Calvary, Jackson (when H. M. King was pastor) that he met his wife — to be, while she was working with the state Sunday School Department as elementary director. (Mrs. Brown is the sister of Neil Taylor, former state WMU employee and church secretary, and James Taylor, professor at New Orleans Seminary.)

Mr. Brown plans to do some writing, as well as supply preaching. He is now writing Sunday School lessons for senior adults, for the Convention's Uniform Series. For supply preaching he may be contacted at Route 6, Box 152, Jackson 39208 (phone 882-1074).

Retired Home Board Staffer Moves To State

Willis A. Brown, who retired December 31, 1974, after twelve years as associate director, Division of Chaplaincy, Home Mission Board, SBC, has moved to Mississippi.

He and his wife, the former Ruby Taylor, are now living in Rankin County in the home they built adjoining the home site where she grew up.

Mr. Brown was born in Mississippi, at Pontotoc, and graduated from Mississippi College before going on to Southern Seminary to earn Th.M. and Ph.D. degrees. He was pastor at Calvary, New Orleans, when he accepted the Home Board post. Other pastorates included churches in Pontotoc and Noxubee Counties in this state, and at Tioga, La.

During World War II he joined the Reserves and spent five years as a chaplain in the Army. Then he remained in the Reserves until the age of 60 when he retired with God.

Proverbs 28:27 says, "He who digs a pit will fall in it, and a stone will come back upon him who starts it rolling."

The trouble which a man prepares for others most probably will come back to him. In the story of Esther, the official named Haman who flattered the king, Ahasuerus in order to destroy all the Jews, was discovered and hanged upon the gallows he had made for

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Calvary Salutes Dr. Riser As Calvary Mission Closes



Dr. and Mrs. J. S. Riser

Dr. and Mrs. J. S. Riser were honored as special guests on July 6 at Calvary, Jackson, Dr. Joe Tuten, pastor. They joined Calvary, Oct. 30, 1968, when Dr. Riser became pastor of Calvary Mission. (Dr. Riser's brother, the late Henry Riser, was a deacon in Calvary. His sister, Mrs. Ethel C. Wall, is a long-time member there.)

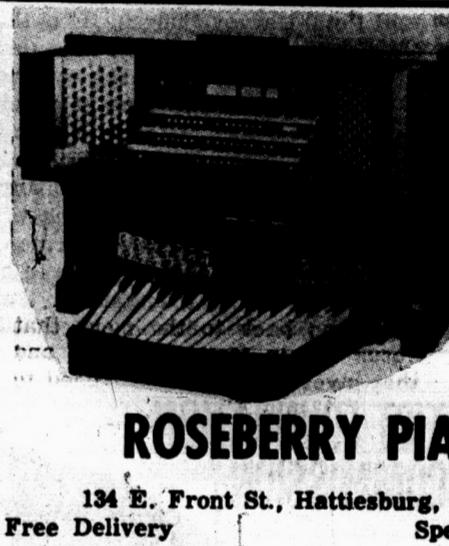
Dr. Riser has been an active Baptist preacher for more than 60 years, having been licensed to preach on May 18, 1918. He has pastored churches in Mississippi and Tennessee. Few, if any, Baptist preachers in the state are more widely known or held in more affectionate esteem than Dr. Riser. His warmth, friendliness and good will long ago earned him the name of "Sunshine" Riser.

The Calvary Mission discontinued their separate worship services June 29. This mission was established in 1945 when Dr. Claud Bowen was Calvary pastor.

The church saluted Dr. Riser for 60 years as an active, faithful Baptist preacher and saluted Calvary Mission for its 30 years of faithful witness.

Salvation is more than rescue from hell; it is a lifetime venture toward eternal fellowship with God in Christ.

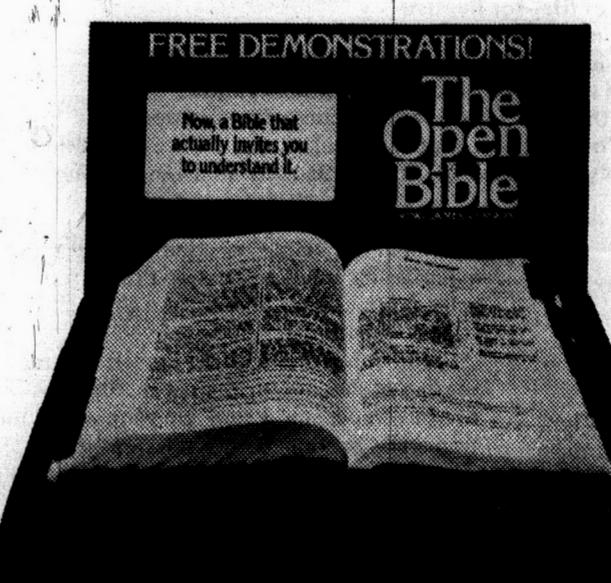
Thus, Christian growth has the goal of being like Christ.



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Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work

Can I Get By With Sin?

By Bill Duncan

Proverbs 1:8-19; 5:21-23; 26:27

How little studying can you do in school and "get by?" How much work will you have to do in order to "get by?"

The phrase, "can I get by," seems to speak of getting caught. It has a sense of cheating in it.

Sin is breaking the law of God. Sin is missing the goal God has set for us. Sin is first of all against God, and then it is against our fellowman.

You cannot get by with God. All sin will be judged by God who knows all.

One day I observed a little boy who was hiding from his friend. He thought because he had his hands over his eyes, no one could see him.

The study of the book of Proverbs is primarily an instruction of a wise father to his son. Since the home was the primary institution for education, the parents took the role of teachers.

"Hear" is an imperative command which is authoritative. The instruction was usually given orally and thus the ability and willingness to listen and receive was essential.

The Proverbs are practical truths which need little explanation or comment. They are God-breathed as any other portion of the Bible. A study of the Proverbs is refreshing because of their wholesome sayings and meaningful truths.

In considering the idea of Father-Son dialogue, obedience to parents is considered obedience to God.

The wise father warns the son against the persuasiveness of those who want to participate in robbery and violence. The line of demarcation between the children of God and the children of wrath is sharply drawn in the inspired word of God. If the sinful man appeals to you to participate in sin, turn away from him. The only wise thing to do is not have companionship with evil men. Many a young Christian has damaged his life because of dallying with the world on the plea of pretense of improving it. So the son is warned not to walk in their way so he will not be tempted to run with them.

The consequences of crime are so obvious that they should be easily avoided. "For in vain is a net spread" seems to say that if a bird watches someone build a trap, he can avoid being captured and thus make such preparation futile. The person thinks he can get the bait and get by without being caught. The bait in the trap distorts judgment and self-control, and the bird is caught.

Dishonest gain gathered by ways of violence and compulsive destruction produces death. This is a built-in punishment with every sin.

Joe was a counterfeiter of United States money. He and a gang

were working in the back part of a drugstore. The secret service men surprised the men and in exchange of shots, the lights were put out. Joe took advantage of the darkness and escaped. He went West and hired out as a miner in the mountains of Colorado. Months went by and nothing more was heard of him. Seemingly he was forgotten. He was known among the miners as "Silent Joe" because he refused companionship. He was sitting alone one night eating bread when hand was placed on his shoulder and he was informed that he was under arrest. Joe asked, "How did you find me?" "Oh," said the detectives, "we have been on your trail every day." Joe said, "For a year I have lived in hell on earth, no friends, alone, yes, alone with my conscience and at last — found out."

Though a man may slip past the law, it is impossible to escape the grasp of sin. The wages of sin is death — it cannot be anything else. Sin always lands its victim.

An additional motivation is given for right behavior: God sees all. A man may think that his sin is hidden and it may be from human observation. But God sees all and he allows the wicked to be ensnared by their own iniquities. The wicked become bound in their own toil (ropes) of sin. The very sins in which he delights will become the chain that shall bind him.

Every person needs to keep in mind that nothing misses the eye of God. He even weighs and ponders every thought and action. Nothing is too insignificant for his notice and nothing is too great for his attention.

The wise father says that "he shall die because of lack of discipline." Every man needs to be able to discipline himself. One of the secrets of Paul, the apostle was his disciplined life. A person may say that he cannot help himself. Then he needs the help of God.

Proverbs 28:27 says, "He who digs a pit will fall in it, and a stone will come back upon him who starts it rolling."

The trouble which a man prepares for others most probably will come back to him. In the story of Esther, the official named Haman who flattered the king, Ahasuerus in order to destroy all the Jews, was discovered and hanged upon the gallows he had made for

himself.

During World War II he joined the Reserves and spent five years as a chaplain in the Army. Then he remained in the Reserves until the age of 60 when he retired with God.

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Just For The Record



Oakland Grove Constructs Buildings

Near the proposed site of the new multi-purpose building of Oakland Grove Church, Laurel, are building committee, pastor, and chairman of deacons. Left to right: Mrs. Clinton McElhenney, Rev. Mitchell Osborne, Drexel Thornton, Joe Bohannon, Paul Byrd, and Mrs. Delynn Blue. Other committee members were Marion Ainsworth and Wilbert Hodge. The building, which will provide Sunday School space for 112 and seat 150 at tables in fellowship hall, and a new four-bedroom brick pastorium are already under construction.

Homecoming At Pearlhaven

Homecoming will be held at Pearlhaven Church, Lincoln County, on July 13, with Rev. L. C. Hoff, pastor at Eudora, Arkansas, as guest speaker at the 11 a.m. service. Sunday School begins at 10.

Dinner will be served on the grounds, and an afternoon of singing with different vocal groups will begin at 1:30. Rev. Ronny Robinson is pastor.

Furrs Plans Lay Renewal Weekend

Furrs Church (Pontotoc) held a pre-renewal conference in May in preparation for a Lay Renewal Weekend. The coordinator, Sidney Ellis of Greenville, met with the pastor and group chairmen to explain purposes of Lay Renewal Weekend and the duties of the groups.

The Lay Renewal Weekend, to be July 11-13, will involve 25 to 30 laymen from surrounding churches. Friday and Saturday night services will begin at 7:30 and Sunday services at 9:45 a.m. Saturday night will end with a special family night service. Rev. James Jeffreys, pastor, invites the public.

Sherman Homecoming

Homecoming will be held at Sherman Church, Sherman, on July 13; beginning with Sunday School at 9:40 followed with morning worship service. Rev. Trevis Grubbs, a former member and ordained to the ministry by the church, will deliver the morning message. He is pastor of South Corinth Church (Alcorn).

At noon an old-fashioned dinner on the ground will be served.

The program beginning at 1:30 will feature a sacred concert by Hubert Greer, minister of music, First Church, Mendenhall. There will be no Sunday night service. (See "Revival Dates.")

Petal-Harvey Ordains Minister

Don Rushing was ordained as a minister of the gospel on June 1 at Petal-Harvey Church. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rushing of Petal.

Rev. Jerry Henderson, Petal-Harvey pastor, preached the ordination sermon; Grady Smith, grandfather of Rushing, led the Hatten, ordination prayer; Ozro Hatten,

Bunker Hill

Pastor Honored

Rev. and Mrs. David Perry of Bunker Hill Church, Columbia, were honored recently by the church with Pastor Appreciation Day.

The special service included tributes from many Sunday School classes, a special song by the Preschool and Children's Choir, testimonies from laymen, a presentation of a Pastor Appreciation Day Certificate to Mr. Perry, a presentation of an orchid corsage to Mrs. Perry, and a generous love offering.

The Pastor Appreciation Day Committee members were Wallace Conery, Chairman, Mrs. Austin Wilks, Mrs. Charles Duncan, Ross Fortenberry, and Donald Robbins.

Houston Road Chapel

Calls First Pastor

Rev. Joseph Bruce "Butch" Knight has been called as pastor of Houston Road Chapel, Laurel.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Knight of Tupelo, he is a graduate of Clarke College, Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary. While in college and seminary he served several churches in Mississippi including McCall Creek (Franklin).

He is married to the former Nancy Hardin of State Springs, also a graduate of Clarke and MC. The Knights will live at 1018 Adams Drive, Laurel.

Rev. Maurice Flowers, Jones County director of missions, was supply pastor until a pastor was called.

chairman of deacons, presented Rushing with a check.

After four years in the U. S. Air Force, Rushing entered New Orleans Seminary. He has been called as pastor of Damascus Church, Brookhaven, and will commute from the seminary. He is married to the former Glenda Clemons of Oxford, and has two boys.

KN



Mack and Marie Jones

Begins Pastorate In Alabama

Rev. Mack Prentiss Jones accepted the pastorate of Chatom Church, Chatom, Alabama as of June 8, 1970.

Rev. and Mrs. Jones were Southern Baptist missionaries serving in Montevideo, Uruguay, where he has been on the faculty of the Uruguayan Baptist Theological Institute since July 1970.

Mrs. Jones was a member of the Institute's faculty, besides teaching piano, theory, conducting choir and voice.

A native of Wayne County, Miss., he was graduated from Jones County Junior College, and Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary.

The former Marie Martin, Mrs. Jones is a native of Hattiesburg, where she graduated from University of Southern Mississippi with the bachelor of music degree.

Mr. Jones replaces Rev. Mack H. Jones who retired after serving 39 years as pastor of the Chatom church.

Bradley Accepts Call To Mobile

Rev. M. R. Bradley has moved to Westdawn Church, 2321 Ralston Road, Mobile, Alabama, as pastor, from First, Florence. In the four and one-half years he was at Florence the church had 74 professions of faith and 277 additions by letter.

A native Mississippian, he graduated from Mississippi College, and served as a Parole Officer of the Juvenile Court in New Orleans while working his way through New Orleans Seminary.

Mr. Bradley is married to the former Doris Russell of Brookhaven, and they have a daughter and son.

Homecoming At First, State Line

First Church, State Line (Greene County) will observe homecoming on July 13. Rev. W. W. Hayes, pastor, states that the day has been designated as High Attendance Day and Building Fund Day. It will be a Bicentennial event. Lunch will be served on the grounds.

Devotional

Waiting For The Sound Of Liberty

By Jim Keith, Pastor, First, Laurel

In 1752, a mass of liquid bronze weighing 2000 pounds was cast into the form of a bell in the Whitechapel Foundry of London, England. The bell was shipped the following year to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and dedicated to the scriptural purpose inscribed upon it, to "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto the inhabitants thereof" (Leviticus 25:10). On August 27, 1753, when initially rung, the bell cracked. After being recast twice the restored bell was returned to the service of the American colonies. On July 8, 1776, four days after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, its most eventful ring sounded liberty for all. A July tradition of ringing the Liberty Bell was established and lasted until the bell cracked again exactly fifty-nine years later. Its clarion call for freedom was ended by an irreparable division in the body of the bell.

The prophet Isaiah confessed his God-appointed purpose in saying, "The Lord hath anointed me... to proclaim liberty to the captives..." (Isaiah 61:1). That remains today as the primary expectation of God for the Christian Church. However, the twentieth century Body of Christ appears to be fragmented in its commitment to the task. Our trumpets give an uncertain sound (I Corinthians 14:8).

Entering the first hours of our country's bicentennial year, one finds that the cracked Liberty Bell still abides as a symbol of freedom; however, it has ceased to make any sound for liberty. In an analogous sense, the disunited church of today remains as a monumental symbol of the truth that frees (John 8:32), but one wonders if it, too, has ceased to proclaim the message of liberty.

There is a redemptive solution, however. The apostle Paul said, "where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty" (II Corinthians 3:17). If we will allow the fragmented body of the church to be recast by the Master Designer, then we will once again be able to "proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."



1st, Baldwyn Dedicates Building

First Church, Baldwyn celebrated the dedication of their new building May 18, with Rev. Leo Barker, pastor, speaking. The sanctuary, which accommodates 500, was filled to capacity. Open house was held with tours given by the deacons. Sunday School directors and workers were stationed in each department to welcome visitors and to provide information. Displayed in the church library were historical relics of the church. A rough sketch of the first building, built in 1870, was displayed. Formerly, the church was located at Highway 45 and Main Street. The old building had been the place of worship since 1824. The new U-shaped facility was constructed at a cost of \$381,000 on a six-acre tract on Highway 45 South.

Off The Record

The master, to impress on his pupils the need of thinking before speaking, told him to count 50 before saying anything important, and 100 if it was very important. Next day he was speaking, standing with his back to the fire, when he noticed several lips moving rapidly. Suddenly the whole class shouted: "98, 99, 100, Your coat's on fire, sir!"—Baptist Courier.

dian Springs (Perry), evangelist; Rev. Jim D. Touchstone, pastor; homecoming on July 20 with Sunday School at 10, worship at 11, lunch served at noon, afternoon service at 2.

Liberty Church, Liberty; July 13-18; services Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Rev. James Fancher, evangelist; G. R. Smith, musician; Charles Hollifield, pastor.

Eliard (Calhoun); July 13-18; Sunday services are regular time; Monday-Friday 10 a.m., 7:30 p.m. Dr. Harold T. Bryson, evangelist, Laderel Hareison, music director, Perry Culver, pastor.

Hardy (Grenada); July 13-18; 7:45 p.m.; Rev. Jimmy Gore, newly called pastor, evangelist; Paul Koonce, music director.

Northside, Vicksburg, July 13-18; Rev. Robert J. Sanderson, pastor of Calvary, Waynesboro and former pastor of Northside, evangelist; Wayne Ward, minister of music at Bowman Avenue, Vicksburg, singer; Pam Middleton, pianist; Kathi Jackson, organist; Sunday services at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. with a market basket lunch at the church; services Mon. Fri. at 7:30 p.m.; Rev. Glenn Wright, pastor.

Saints Valley (Lawrence); July 13-18; Rev. Darnell Archie, evangelist; Hulon McKenzie, music director; Mrs. Joyce Cox, pianist; services at 7:30 p.m. Rev. Charles Ezell, pastor.

Saints Valley (Lawrence); July 13-18; Rev. Joel Murphy, evangelist; Rev. W. L. Yeatman, pastor; homecoming on Sunday, July 20, with morning and afternoon services and dinner on the grounds.

Prospect (Ferry); July 20-25; Rev. B. A. Conway, pastor of In-

The SOUTHERN BAPTIST FOUNDATION The STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

Guiding the Way to the Means

We live in a material world. This is a fact of life—for Baptists no less than for others. And since the need for money—we've called it the Means to the Baptist Way—is paramount in keeping the simplest of operations going in a material world, the need for responsible stewardship of money is also paramount. That's the chief reason for existence of two important Southern Baptist Convention agencies: The Southern Baptist Foundation and the Stewardship Commission. These agencies are uniquely dedicated to helping Baptists find better ways to use their means.

The Southern Baptist Foundation

Two broad assignments occupy the Southern Baptist Foundation:

1. Fund management.
2. Informational and consultative services.

The Foundation manages reserve funds for other SBC agencies and prudently invests them for best possible returns. Gifts, legacies, trust funds, etc., from individual Baptists receive the same careful money-management attention as that extended to funds of agencies and institutions.

As consultants, the Foundation's staff, on a Convention-wide basis, counsels anyone wishing to contribute to or invest in a Baptist cause.

The Stewardship Commission

The Stewardship Commission works cooperatively with state conventions. Its function divides into three main areas:

1. Development of good stewardship practices among Baptists.
2. Promotion of the Cooperative Program.
3. Assistance to churches and institutions in acquiring endowment funds and in raising money for capital needs.

The Commission publishes an extensive array of special materials designed to assist churches in budget campaigns and to help church members



understand principles of good stewardship. Other materials include Cooperative Program promotion helps produced for distribution through Baptist state convention offices.

Trust funds and willed bequests are important sources of income for Baptist institutions. The Stewardship Commission, working with foundation staffs in state offices, develops materials designed to promote this kind of stewardship commitment.

In still another area, Commission staff members work directly with Baptist organizations to help them raise money for worthy local projects.

Though each is an independent agency of the SBC, the Southern Baptist Foundation and the Stewardship Commission together comprise a team whose work is made possible through Cooperative Program funds. And, of course, you and your church make the Cooperative Program possible. Your gifts through the Program provide the MEANS. The Foundation and the Commission jointly provide the WAY.

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First Church, Abbeville; July 13-18; Dr. Lewis Sewell, First Church, Oxford, evangelist; Lacy Potter, minister of music of Glenfield Church, New Albany, singer; services 11 and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday; weekday at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Rev. Millard L. Swinney, pastor.

First Church, Richton; July 13-18; Tommy Winders, Tupelo, evangelist and song leader, assisted by his wife Diane and Tom and Marsha Lineberger; Rev. Fred Trexler, Jr., pastor; Bill Wade, minister of music and education; Mrs. Mary Dee Odom, organist.

Fellowship (Greene); July 20-25; Dr. Joel Murphy, evangelist; Rev. W. L. Yeatman, pastor; homecoming on Sunday, July 20, with morning and afternoon services and dinner on the grounds.

Prospect (Ferry); July 20-25; Rev. B. A. Conway, pastor of In-